

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for operating an internal combustion engine of a motor vehicle, the method comprising:
  - supplying fuel under a pressure to a fuel accumulator;
  - injecting the fuel into a combustion chamber of the engine via a fuel injector;
  - ascertaining a coking of the fuel injector; and
  - implementing a first fuel-pressure increase if the coking exceeds a threshold value.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the first fuel-pressure increase is implemented for a predefined time period.
3. The method according to claim 1, further comprising repeating the first fuel-pressure increase.
4. The method according to claim 3, further comprising ending the repeating of the first fuel-pressure increase when the coking falls below a threshold value.
5. The method according to claim 3, further comprising ending the repeating of the first fuel-pressure increase when a number of repeats exceeds a threshold value.
6. The method according to claim 5, further comprising activating a second fuel-pressure increase when the coking exceeds a further threshold value.
7. The method according to claim 6, further comprising deactivating the second fuel-pressure increase when the coking falls below the threshold value.
8. The method according to claim 6, wherein the second fuel-pressure increase is activated only if the repeating of the first fuel-pressure increase is ended in that the number of repeats exceeds the threshold value.

9. A computer-readable medium containing a computer program which, when executed by a processor of a motor vehicle having an internal combustion engine, performs the following method:

- supplying fuel under a pressure to a fuel accumulator;
- injecting the fuel into a combustion chamber of the engine via a fuel injector;
- ascertaining a coking of the fuel injector; and
- implementing a first fuel-pressure increase if the coking exceeds a threshold value.

10. A control device of a motor vehicle having an internal combustion engine for performing the following:

- supplying fuel under a pressure to a fuel accumulator;
- injecting the fuel into a combustion chamber of the engine via a fuel injector;
- ascertaining a coking of the fuel injector; and
- implementing a first fuel-pressure increase if the coking exceeds a threshold value.

11. An internal combustion engine of a motor vehicle comprising a control device for performing the following:

- supplying fuel under a pressure to a fuel accumulator;
- injecting the fuel into a combustion chamber of the engine via a fuel injector;
- ascertaining a coking of the fuel injector; and
- implementing a first fuel-pressure increase if the coking exceeds a threshold value.